

IN THE DRAWINGS

Applicant has enclosed herewith an amended sheet of drawings which includes Figs. 3-5. This amended sheet replaces the original sheet of drawings containing Figs. 3-5. In Fig. 4, applicant has added the reference numeral 15.2.

REMARKS

The Office Action of December 19, 2007, has been carefully considered.

It is noted that the specification is objected to because the title is not descriptive.

Claim 18 is objected to for containing informalities.

The drawings are objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a).

Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph.

Claims 11-13 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over the patent application of Heinz, et al. in view of the patent to Fischer.

Claims 14, 15 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Heinz, et al. and Fischer and further in view of the patent to Takahashi, et al.

Claim 18 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Heinz, et al. and Fisher and further in view of PCT Reference WO00/37738 to Baranda, et al.

In connection with the Examiner's objection to the title, applicant has deleted the original title and added a new title which is more indicative of the invention. With this change it is respectfully submitted that the objection to the specification is overcome and should be withdrawn.

In connection with the Examiner's objection to the drawings, applicant has submitted herewith a replacement sheet of drawings containing Figs. 3-5. In Fig. 4, the reference numeral 15.2 has been added. With this change it is respectfully submitted that the objection to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. 1.83(a) is overcome and should be withdrawn.

In view of the Examiner's objections to and rejections of the claims, applicant has cancelled claims 11-18 and added new claims 19-46.

With the cancellation of claim 18 it is respectfully submitted that the objection to this claim for containing informalities is overcome and should be withdrawn.

Furthermore, with the cancellation of claim 12 it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of this claim under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, is overcome and should be withdrawn.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims now on file differ essentially and in an unobvious, highly advantageous manner from the constructions disclosed in the references.

Turning now to the references, and particularly to Heinz, et al., it can be seen that this patent application discloses a lift belt and system wherein the lift belt forms a support for an elevator. The belt has, at least on a running surface facing the drive pulley, several ribs of wedge-shaped or trapezium-shaped cross section, which extend parallelly in a longitudinal direction of the support. There are also several tensile carriers oriented in the longitudinal direction of the support means. Heinz, et al. do not provide any teaching relative to the percentage to the total cross-sectional area of the tensile areas in relation to the cross-sectional area of the support means.

The presently claimed invention provides an elevator support means that can be the same size and shape as Heinz, et al., but has a higher rated load.

The patent to Fischer discloses a ribbed power transmission belt. The Examiner combined Fischer with Heinz, et al. in determining that claims 11-13 and 16 would be unpatentable over such a combination. Applicant submits that neither of these references, nor their combination, teach or suggest an elevator installation having support means with tensile carriers sized so that a cross-sectional area of all the tensile

carriers amounts to at least 25% of the cross-sectional area of the support means, as in the presently claimed invention.

In connection with claim 13, the subject matter of which is now contained in claim 21, the Examiner argued that the feature that at least 90% of the cross-sectional area of each tensile area lies within a corresponding perpendicular projection of a respective inclined flank of one of the ribs, would result in the arrangement of the tensile carriers as recited in claim 13. Applicant submits that this conclusion is not valid. As can be shown by verifying respective measurements in the drawings of Fischer. In these drawings the spacings (A) between centers of two tensile carriers associated with the rib are wider than spacings (B) between the centers of adjacent tensile carriers associated with two adjoining ribs. It is obvious that the spacing between tensile carriers is not defined by this feature but strongly depending on the shape of the ribs, in particular the rib width -to- groove width ratio, is variable in a wide range. Therefore, the combination of references does not teach that the spacings (A) between centers of two tensile carriers associated with a rib are smaller than spacings (B) between the centers of adjacent tensile carriers associated with two adjoining ribs, as in the presently claimed invention.

In view of these considerations, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 11-13 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over a combination of the above-discussed

reference is not tenable with respect to the claims presently on file and should be withdrawn.

The patent to Takahashi, et al. discloses a v-ribbed belt. The Examiner combined this reference with Heinz, et al. and Fischer in determining that claims 14, 15 and 17 would be unpatentable over such a combination. The Examiner argues that Takahashi, et al. teach that their support means has three tensile carriers per each rib and comprise approximately 25% of the cross-sectional area of the support means, that in a support means having only two tensile carriers per rib, the tensile carriers would have to comprise 30% - 40% of the cross-sectional area of the support means in order to be capable of carrying the same load. Applicant submits that this conclusion is incorrect. Applicant submits that the total cross-sectional area of the tensile carriers, and therefore its percentage in relation to the cross-sectional area of the support means, is independent of how many tensile carriers are providing the cross-sectional area. Therefore, the feature that a support means with tensile carriers wherein the tensile carriers are sized so that a total cross-sectional area of all the tensile carriers amounts to at least 25% of a cross-sectional area of the support means is not taught by a combination of Takahashi, et al. with Heinz et al. and Fischer.

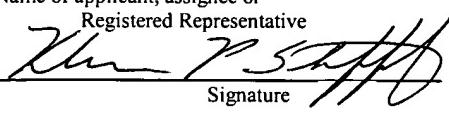
In view of these considerations it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claims 14, 15 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over a combination of the above-discussed

references is not tenable with respect to the claims presently on file and should be withdrawn.

The reference to Baranda, et al. has also been considered. Applicant submits that it adds nothing to the teachings of Heinz, et al. and Fischer so as to suggest the presently claimed invention as discussed above. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of claim 18 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) is not tenable with respect to the claims presently on file and should be withdrawn.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

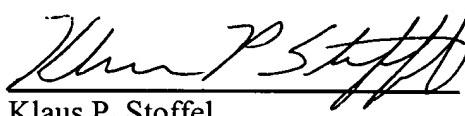
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